

2. Revelation

BC 1-2; Canons 3&4:4; 3&4:e5

Knowing God

What does it mean when we confess that God is incomprehensible [BC 1]?

We confess that we know God and that His greatness is unsearchable [Ps. 145:3; Rom. 11:33].

What has to happen for us to know God?

The Son has to reveal the Father to us [Mt. 11:27; John 1:18].

God reveals Himself to us and causes us to believe what He says.

Puts His word in our heart.

Works faith by the preaching of the gospel

The Son reveals God to whom?

Only the elect [Mt. 11:27; John 6:45; Mt. 13:11; Ps. 147:19-20]

What are the 2 means by which God makes Himself known [BC 2]?

His works: Creation, preservation & government [Ps. 19:1-2; Rom. 1:20]

His Word [II Tim. 3:16]

How are these 2 means related?

God makes Himself known more clearly and fully by His Word [BC 2].

We must believe what God says to understand what we see in creation/history.

The Wicked without Excuse

What does God cause the reprobate to know?

There's a God that has eternal power and who must be served.

How does God cause the wicked to know this?

The creation itself makes this known [Rom. 1:20].

God testifies in the conscience concerning what's right & wrong [Rom. 2:14-15].

Why does God cause the wicked to know this?

It is not for their profit [Canons 3&4:4; e5].

It is that they might be without excuse [Rom. 1:20; BC 2, 14].

What happens to unbelievers who hear gospel preaching?

They will not come to the light [John 3:19-21].

A heavier judgment comes upon them [John 15:22; Luke 12:47].

They are plunged into deeper darkness [John 9:39].

Jesus came that the blind might see. Who are the blind? [John 9:39].